IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Albrecht, et al.

U.S. Serial No.

Filing Date

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Title of Invention

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed are copies of the following references for this application:

- 1. United States Patent No. 3,980,602 dated September 14, 1976;
- 2. International Appln. No. WO 96/14347, dated May 17, 1996;
- 3. International Appln. No. WO 94/21701, dated September 29, 1994;

- 4. International Appln. No. WO 97/19948, dated June 5, 1997;
- 5. European Patent No. 0 731 148 A2, dated September 11, 1996; and
- 6. German Patent No. DE 199 04 603 A1, dated August 10, 2000.

REMARKS

Entry of this Information Disclosure Statement and an early examination on the merits are respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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WFL/ds Encs.